

Government & Civics Syllabus

Mr. Watt

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Philosophy:

Anything is possible with hard work and perseverance. Work hard and you will never be a failure. Failure is not Final IF the necessary work is put in to making this true. Every student can and will succeed if they look at each challenge as an OPPORTUNITY to GROW.

Course Description

This course will lead students on a journey into the principles, purpose, and practices of American Government as established by the US Constitution. Students will examine the structure and processes of government at all levels (Federal, State, & Local) and recognize their rights and responsibilities as citizens while learning how to exercise those rights and responsibilities.

Classroom Supply List

Please bring in:

- Clorox wipes
- Tissues
- Hand Sanitizer
- paper towels
- ***Expo Markers are a welcome bonus.

Each Student should have access to Markers, Color pencils or similar items.

Materials

three-ring binder with paper & dividers

* Students are required to check Microsoft Teams on a daily basis. The class code for our Team is:

Grades will be comprised of the following items:

As Government is a discussion and engagement driven course, ALL students are expected to participate every day in class while understanding that dialogue and discourse involving diverse views will occur. Your views, supported by facts, are always welcome and are necessary to do well.

*Assignments are weighted within the category (i.e., something that takes 10 minutes will not and should not have the same impact as something that takes an hour)

- Daily Assignments, Homework, Participation- 50%
- All Assessments (Tests, Quizzes, Writing Assignments) and Projects-50%

** Semester exams will count 20% of semester average

***All Seniors must pass a civics exam at the end of the course to meet graduation requirements.

Grading Scale **Grades are accessible through EduPoint and It is the responsibility of the student and parent to check periodically for progress.

A	93-100
B	85-92
C	75-84
D	70-74
F	0-69

Cheating and Plagiarism

Cheating WILL NOT be tolerated. If a student is caught cheating, the student will be given a zero on the specific assignment or test without the opportunity to regain those points. Failing the course will be the result of habitual cheating. Plagiarizing is considered cheating. If a student is caught plagiarizing, the student will earn a zero on the assignment without the opportunity to regain those points.

*PLAGIARISM: to steal and pass off the ideas or words of another as one's own: use a created production without crediting the source: to commit literary theft: present as new and original an idea or product derived from an existing source.

Late Work

Late work will also not be tolerated. Due dates will be posted, and assignments will not be collected late. If the assignment is not turned in within one school week, the assignment will receive a zero without the opportunity to regain those points.

*In extenuating circumstances, a student may make prior arrangements for an extension.

Missing Class

When a student misses a class period, he or she is expected to contact the teacher about the missed materials. Students should talk with the teacher before or after class to discuss what needs to be made up. *This policy is not only referring to illnesses but also early releases for athletes, clubs and field trips.

Discipline Policy

Discipline in the classroom is necessary in order to maximize every student's ability to learn. Students will work with Mr. Watt in order to create classroom expectations and consequences for MINOR violations.

Cell Phone and Electronic Device Policy

Only under the consent and the direct supervision of a classroom teacher, for the purposes of enhancing educational instruction, may a cell phone or other electronic device be used in an academic setting during instructional time. Any classroom use of a cell phone or tablet without prior permission will be subject to school Cell Phone Policy procedures.

Tutoring

Tutoring is held each week on Tuesday from 3:30-4:00 pm. Students will be expected to arrive promptly at 3:30 and be dismissed at exactly 4:00. Students will sign in upon arrival and sign out before leaving. These records are kept to document attendance and can be referenced at a parent's request.

**Arrangements must be made 24 hours in advance with Mr. Watt if you intend to stay for help.

*Students must arrange their own transportation.

*After school tutoring is not available to students who choose to sleep during class or refuse to complete assignments during regular class hours. Students must be in dress code and abide by school rules while attending tutoring. Any student who fails to do so will be asked to leave.